



Beltway Plaza
MLK Day, p.12



Mishkan Torah
celebrates, p.12

Council Approves Much of Reform Language in Police General Orders

by Matthew Arbach

After months of deliberation and debate, the Greenbelt City Council passed a 22-item police reform resolution on January 10. This resolution would modify various General Orders of the Greenbelt Police Department which dictate its day-to-day operations. With the impetus being Councilmember Colin Byrd's Greenbelt Fair and Just Policing Act, proposed in 2020, a thorough review was done by the Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) that endeavored to provide specific and the most effective alterations and correlations to the existing General Orders. In addition, the landmark April 2021 state police reform legislation stood as a powerful influence and guide.

The resolution covers policy in several areas, the major ones being: an emphasis on de-escalation, "fair, impartial and objective" conduct and a "guardian

police model"; the safe and judicious use of no-knock warrants; more detailed and transparent records on police actions and the civilians involved to ensure equity; ubiquitous use of body cameras; civilian oversight in line with new state law; and the use of a specialist in order to enlist a more diverse department that reflects the city's population.

Still to be Considered

Nine items remain on a list of reforms requiring further review for later passage. They cover the following subjects: required referral to the state attorney's office on any investigations where an officer's conduct resulted in a fatality; the banning of detention of a civilian not suspected of a specific crime; the length of time for the release of body-camera footage; the banning of no-knock warrants in the city; and various

See **POLICE**, page 8

ERHS Student Wins Award For Best Micro Short Film

by Julie Rapp

Felix Hass, Greenbelt resident and 10th grader at Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS), won the Best Micro Short Film award from the Taiwan International Short Film Festival in October 2021. Hass has been attending the Greenbelt Access Television (GATe) animation classes for approximately four years and with the help of his teacher, George Kochell, Hass produced his award-winning short film, *Squirrel Hacker*.

Hass said that Kochell, known to everyone as Mr. Geo, is a wonderful mentor. "Not only does [Mr. Geo] understand the software, but he genuinely loves both animating and teaching." Hass's film was entered into the film festival's contest on his behalf by Mr. Geo. According to Hass, Mr. Geo "really likes entering his students' films into contests and he always manages to find some who will accept them."

Hass, who is interested in computers and open-source software and is part of the robotics program at ERHS, was inspired to make this film by watching the squirrels in his backyard. The short, animated film is about a squirrel who, from a control



Filmmaker and ERHS student
Felix Hass

PHOTO COURTESY FELIX HASS

room, sends a drone strike to a bird feeder to gain access to the seeds inside. Hass explained, "Squirrels stop at nothing to get into a bird feeder or to get any kind of food for that matter."

The short, animated films have broad appeal, Hass

told the News Review. They have no words or text, so they

See **AWARD**, page 6

Photographers of Early Greenbelt Also Covered Poverty, War & More

by Deanna Dawson

Part 1 of a series

Greenbelt's construction and the early years of life in the community were well documented by photographers employed by the federal government's Resettlement Administration (RA) and the Farm Security Administration (FSA), which succeeded it. The Greenbelt photos are part of the FSA/Office of War Information (OWI) Photograph Collection, which documented American life between 1935 and 1944. After World War II, this photo collection was transferred to the Library of Congress for cataloging and preservation; digital versions of the photos are available online at loc.gov/pictures. A search for "Greenbelt Maryland" yields 1572 results, including some more recent, color photos.

The documentary photo project was launched and headed by Roy Stryker, who was a colleague at Columbia University of

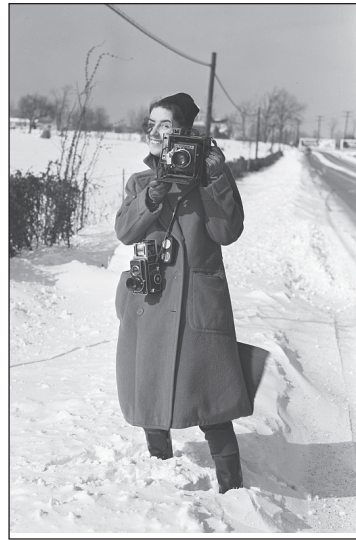


PHOTO ATTRIBUTED TO ARTHUR ROTHSTEIN

Marion Post Wolcott with Zeiss Ikonflex III and Speed Graphic cameras, Montgomery County, Md., January 1940

Rexford Tugwell who, as head of the RA, oversaw the planning and construction of Greenbelt. Stryker initially hired 11 photographers,

including Carl Mydans, Arthur Rothstein, Marion Post Wolcott, John Vachon and Russell Lee, all of whom took photos in Greenbelt. Another photographer of Greenbelt, Marjory Collins, was hired later, when the FSA photo unit had been shifted to the OWI. All six became well-known for their photojournalism and had varied and interesting careers.

This reporter was inspired to learn more about these photographers by the exhibition, *The New Woman Behind the Camera*, which is on view at the National Gallery of Art through January 30. The Greenbelt work of many of these photographers can be seen in the halls of the Community Center.

Carl Mydans

Carl Mydans had worked as a reporter for the Boston Globe and Boston Herald before going

See **PHOTOS**, page 11

Send Your Valentine Cuties A News Review Love Note

The first Valentine's Love Notes appeared in the News Review on February 13, 1986, decorously entitled *Expressions of the Heart*. Since then, the page has been an annual feature.

We encourage our readers to express their love for each other, their families, their pets, their city – even their newspaper (oh, the brazen hussy). It's lots of fun to discover a Valentine's message that you know means YOU – even if disguised (Ya, Snookums you know who you are). And just as much fun to put it there and make sure it gets read – though there is no evidence that cats can read. Sardonic, gushy, slang or sonnet – News Review Valentines have



set fond hearts a-pitter-patter for over 35 years.

Examples of the notes are sprinkled throughout this and the next two issues (and should be taken with a pinch of salt). There have been some great notes over the years – for example in 1987, "Jas. K., I'm getting the money, honey" and, more

poignantly, "Dear E, I miss hearing your meow, meow. Love, J." They range from the apocryphal "Feets, Together for always Your sweet babou" to the florid, "Dogged Love Pleading doe eyes lock my orbs for the pleasure feat" and so on for another 80 words or so. Let your inner Shakespeare hang out.

Prices

Notes begin at \$6 – which buys up to 20 loving, jolly or poetic words, tastefully enshrined in a little cloud of hearts or similar decoration. Each additional 10 words or part thereof is \$3 and the extravagance of the decorative motif increases accordingly. More hearts, more roses. Cupids anybody? A sonnet would cost about \$36 but who can put a price on How do I love thee?

To Submit a Love Note

All submissions must include full name and a phone number (neither will be printed but help track your submission and payment). To submit in person, place the Love Note text and exact payment in an envelope and leave it in the News Review Dropbox, located near the cash registers in the Co-op Supermarket, before 6 p.m., Monday, February 7. Notes can also be emailed by 6 p.m. on Monday, February 7 (which saves us typing and is appreciated) but if you do so and also leave payment in the Co-op box, include a copy of

See **VALENTINE**, page 9

What Goes On

Saturday, January 22

9 a.m. to noon, Electronics Recycling, Public Works Yard

Monday, January 24

8 p.m., City Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 26

8 p.m., Council Worksession:

Greenbelt East Communities (Stakeholders)

All meetings are virtual. See the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov for agendas and information on public participation in these meetings.

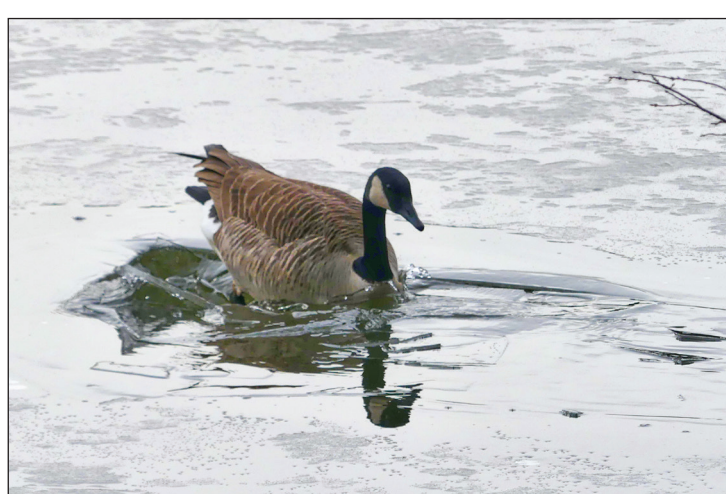


PHOTO BY KATHRYN BEARD

A Canada goose finds a patch of open water on the ice-covered Lake.

Letters to the Editor

Grocery Shelves

I am a devoted Co-op shopper, but I go to a big chain grocery to recycle plastic bags and buy fresh turmeric. On Friday, January 14, I went to the big chain store to buy the turmeric and was surprised to find that the produce shelves were bare. I then headed to the Co-op to do my shopping for the meal I was planning for Sunday lunch with my family. The difference was both shocking and exciting. I want to give a shout-out to the people who choose the vendors for the Co-op. There are obviously definite advantages to working with vendors that cater to independent stores instead of just large chain stores. Thanks to the Co-op for the great job. I had nine different kinds of roasted vegetables for the family dinner.

Betty Sonneveldt

More Credit Due To RUAK

The Greenbelt Black History and Culture committee was delighted to accept the 2022 Day of Service Award from our city council on Monday, January 10. However, such a recognition really belongs to an organization like RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness) and its founder, Robert Goldberg-Strassler.

Robert goes to each and ev-

ery community in Greenbelt and cleans the streets and roads. He picks up trash around our communities weekly without fanfare or publicity. I see him and marvel at his dedication.

Not only has he done this “Act of Kindness” for each community, he now has many others who have taken up the mantle to keep their own neighborhoods clean.

Robert and RUAK definitely represent what “Service” in our city looks like. Thank you, Robert.

Lois Rosado

Kindness of Strangers

While doing the “bread and milk mambo” at Co-op before the latest snow storm, I couldn’t reach a bottle of milk from the top shelf, as those near the front were gone and I couldn’t reach the ones in back. The nearest tall stranger responded to my plea and reached for a bottle.

But, before he handed it to me, he checked the “best before” date and then pulled down another bottle to check if there was a later date. They were the same, he said, handing me a bottle with a smile (in his eyes and presumably behind his mask).

Thanks to the kind stranger for being so thoroughly helpful.

Pat Scully

Corrections

In last week’s issue, the name of the former Doctors Hospital should have been written in full as Luminis Health Doctors Community Medical Center.

Also, last week’s cartoon was incorrectly attributed; it was by Michael Kusie.



A Valentine ditty
That’s cogent and witty
Will hit her quite hard
It sure beats a card
And for nine bucks a pop
Why not?

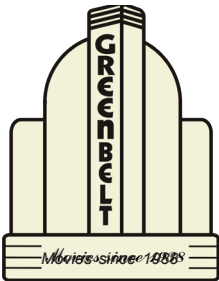
Super Sweetie Size at \$9



See page 9 to get yours!



KEEP
CALM
AND
WEAR
A MASK



Old Greenbelt Theatre
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbelttheatre.org
Members Always \$6.50!
Member kids are always FREE!
Adults \$9, Kids \$6,
Senior/Student/Military \$8
All shows before 5 PM:
Adults \$7, Kids \$5
OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES
January 21st - 24th
Proof of COVID-19 vaccination OR negative PCR test (within 72 hours)
AND matching photo ID required for admission.
For more information call (301) 329-2034 or visit greenbelttheatre.org
THE TRAGEDY OF MACBETH (R) (CC) (DVS) (2021) (105 MINS)
FRI. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM
SAT. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM
SUN. 2:00 PM (OC), 5:00 PM
MON. 2:00 PM, 5:00 PM



My New Year’s resolution is to be more real.

- Michael Kusie

Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.



Greenbelt News Review

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display Ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All Letters to the Editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified Ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 8 p.m.
Office is currently closed to the public. Please phone or email.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the municipal building.



PHOTO BY MARA HEMMINGER

The tunnel light gleams through the snowy evening landscape.

On Screen at Old Greenbelt Theatre

The Tragedy of Macbeth

Denzel Washington and Frances McDormand star in Joel Coen’s bold and fierce adaptation of the Shakespeare classic – a tale of murder, madness, ambition and wrathful cunning.

“What lingers in the mind after this version of ... Macbeth is not specific line deliveries or bravura acting moments – although the cast all acquit themselves well – but images and sounds,” says Isaac Butler in Slate Magazine. “The smear of blood on Macbeth’s cheek. The circling crows. The fog out of which characters emerge. The ominous strings of Carter Burwell’s score. The dripping and knocking and pounding. These fragments remain, like the shards of a dream, one you’re happy to have awakened from but also long to return to, so you can discover what profundities lie within.”

Rated R. Running time 105 minutes

Community Events

At the Library

PGCMLS continues to offer virtual events for the public. A full schedule of upcoming programs may be accessed at pgcmls.info/events.

Covid Tests

The Greenbelt Library is no longer receiving Covid tests for free distribution. The Laurel and New Carrollton branches are the nearest libraries to still offer them. The supply of approximately 1,250 kits per day at each location is expected to be claimed before the end of the scheduled distribution time.

An announcement will be issued via pgcmls.info and @PGCMLS on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram when additional test kits become available. Check pgcmls.info/coronavirus for updates.

Library staff are maintaining a Covid-19 Testing Resources guide that can help individuals source PCR and rapid-antigen testing from various local and online providers. Visit pgcmls.info/coronavirus for more information.

Immigrant Proud

Supporting the 200,000+ immigrants and refugees who live and work in Prince George's County has long been a Library priority. This winter, the Library launches Immigrant Proud, a campaign to highlight the rich resources available to immigrants.

Immigrant Proud showcases books and online resources to support language learning and legal needs, free citizenship bundles to support preparation for citizenship exams, as well as programs like English classes for English language learners, Kids Achieve Club virtual tutoring for students in grades 1 to 4, Leamos literacy classes for Spanish speakers, citizenship study groups and language conversation clubs for informal practice. An overview of resources is available at the Library's new Immigrant Proud webpage (pgcmls.info/immigrantproud) and on displays in branch libraries.

U.S. Passports

The Greenbelt Library is a U.S. Passport Acceptance Facility. Applications are accepted by appointment; schedule a 30-minute appointment by calling 240-455-5451 or visiting pgcmls.info/passport-services. Families with multiple applicants must schedule separate appointments for each person.

FAFSA Help

Live assistance in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application is offered via Brainfuse HelpNow. This service provides students and families with personalized support as they navigate the process of applying to college and seeking federal financial aid. Tutors are available Mondays through Thursdays from 2 to 11 p.m. to assist students and parents with the FAFSA application at any stage in the application process.

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

Six bucks hardly matters
If your love is in tatters
Rekindle the flame
Will he remember your name?
Sweetie Size at \$6

See page 9 to get yours!

GHI Seeks Member Input in Survey

The Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) Transition Task Force is seeking members' help to inform GHI's preparation for a general manager leadership transition. Eldon Ralph became general manager in 2011 and has indicated that he has begun to think about retirement.

The task force has prepared a short survey that asks members what they would like to see changed at GHI, what should stay the same and what are key attributes of the next general manager. This feedback will help the board of directors understand members' wishes for the leadership transition and inform the board of what types of candidates to look for and ultimately select.

In addition to helping inform the transition and to encourage and thank members for participating, six survey respondents will be randomly chosen to receive \$50 gift certificates to the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket. To be entered into the raffle, name and address must be entered where indicated in the survey. To foster prompt participation, two of the six gift certificates will be awarded to members who have responded by Friday, January 21.

The link to the Google survey form is: surveymonkey.com/r/WDF7LKM. Paper copies of the survey are available from the GHI administration office during usual business hours. Completed surveys may be returned to the office. Members are requested to complete online surveys and return paper surveys to the office before Wednesday, February 9. Complete only one survey per member.



Golden Agers Get Birthday Sweets



PHOTOS COURTESY GREENBELT RECREATION

Wayne Williams and Judy Parker enjoy their birthday treats from Heavenly Bakery.

Greenbelt Recreation, Senior Programs, has partnered with Janubi Devendra, director of marketing at Beltway Plaza, to help celebrate Golden Age Club members' birthdays. Beltway Plaza is offering a \$5 gift certificate to Heaven's Bakery (inside the Mall) to Golden Age Club members during their birthday month.

Astronomical Society January Meeting

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt invites the public to its January meeting, to be held Thursday, January 27 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be virtual by Zoom, with the Zoom link to be posted before the meeting on the Society's calendar at greenbeltastro.org/events. All are welcome.

The speaker will be Alesondra Springmann, a planetary science Ph.D. candidate at the University of Arizona Lunar and Planetary Laboratory who studies meteorites, comets and asteroids. She will be discussing her previous work at the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico using the megawatt planetary radar system to search for near-earth asteroids, as well as the legacy of Arecibo and the future of the observatory.

City Celebrates Centenarians

The City of Greenbelt would like to celebrate Greenbelt residents who have reached the milestone age of 100 years. To have a loved one or friend recognized, contact Rebekah Sutfin at 240-542-2056 or rsutfin@greenbeltnmd.gov.

The centenarian can choose from a variety of options to celebrate.

The city will continue to promote senior services and appreciation throughout the year. Recognizing the city's diverse population, Greenbelt seeks to celebrate centenarians' experiences and wisdom, provide activities that meet their needs and encourage seniors to age in place here in Greenbelt.

Library Plans Black Artists Exhibition

The Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) is seeking works for the Black & Proud+ Art Exhibit happening this spring. The exhibit will showcase a broad spectrum of visual imagery and poetic expression. PGCMLS is eager to share with the library community artwork that celebrates the passion and vitality of Black Queer life.

Submissions are open to high school students and adults in Prince George's County and the DMV area. Submissions are due by Monday, January 31. For more information about the exhibit and submission process, visit bit.ly/34xDTvV.

February 11 Is Next Local Blood Drive

Greenbelt Recreation is holding a blood drive on Friday, February 11. Sign up at redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive. Search zip code 20770 under Find a Drive. Appointment times fill up fast and walk-ins are not permitted.

If the Greenbelt Recreation drive is full, appointments may be available at the American Legion blood drive on March 14. Farther afield, but closer in time, the Knights of Columbus on Cherry Hill Road in College Park are sponsoring a drive on February 14 – a blood donation would be a true gift from the heart on Valentine's Day.

Greenbelt Rotary Events, Jan. 20, 22

The Greenbelt Rotary invites Greenbelt citizens to participate in a disaster training event, Robots in the Wild Disaster Training, on Saturday, January 22 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Capitol Technology University, 11301 Springfield Road in Laurel, presented by Rotary Action Group and Disaster AID USA.

After disaster struck Bremen, Ky., Greenbelt Rotary volunteers were there helping with rebuilding and financial aid. To meet and greet these hometown heroes, a social happy hour is planned for Thursday, January 20 at 6:30 p.m. at Crowne Plaza on Ivy Lane.

More information is available at captechu.edu.

GHI Workday On Native Plants

Help fight invasives and plant natives and learn to heat bamboo for natural weatherproofing. The GHI Woodlands Committee is hosting a workday on Saturday, January 22 from 9 a.m. to noon. The mission is to build bamboo fencing to exclude the deer and dig out roots in preparation for creating a new propagation area for native trees and shrubs. Participants will meet at the picnic table between 8 and 10 Courts Laurel Hill Road, and will work next to the blackberry patch at the woodland edge.

What to bring:

1. A face mask for when in proximity to others. All participants are required to socially distance as much as possible for their safety and that of others.
2. Clothes that cover all skin.
3. Bug repellent, hand sanitizer, etc.
4. Tools and equipment will be provided, but if possible bring a shovel, hacksaw or drawknife to facilitate other volunteers' involvement.

For more information, contact BryanBruns@yahoo.com.

Electronics, Styrofoam And Paint Recycling

This Saturday, January 22, the city will hold its quarterly electronics, styrofoam and paint recycling from 9 a.m. until noon at Public Works. No alkaline batteries or tube TVs will be accepted. There is a fee of \$5 per container for paint recycling. Questions? Call 301-474-8004.



Order Free Rapid Home Covid-19 Tests

The federal government is making available free at-home Covid-19 tests, with each residential household in the U.S. eligible to order one set of four rapid antigen tests. The brief order form, asking for only contact and shipping information, takes just a moment to fill out. The form and more information can be found at COVIDtests.gov. Orders will ship within 7 to 12 days, with delivery by the U.S. Postal Service. The Washington Post reports that the federal government has purchased 500 million rapid tests to supply this campaign.

Negro League Baseball Featured at Exhibit

On Saturday, February 5 and Sunday, February 6 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. the Springhill Lake Recreation Center will present an exhibit by the Hubert V. Simmons Museum of Negro Leagues Baseball, Inc. The Museum administers projects designed to educate, advocate and generate widespread interest surrounding the Negro League from the 1800s to the 1950s. In addition to the traveling exhibit, Luther Atkinson, who played for the Satchel Paige All-Stars, and Mrs. Geraldine Day, the widow of Hall of Famer Leon Day, will be present.

All participants must wear masks and maintain physical distancing.

Greenbelt Access Television

Greenbelt Access Television
Jan 21, Fri – Jan 27, Thu

Verizon FIOS Channel 19 • Comcast 77
(School Programming on Your Cable Guide)
Streaming on www.greenbeltaccessstv.org

THIS WEEK on GATE • Your Community Access Station		
7am	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
8am	Democracy Now!	Yesterday's Syndicated Program
9am	GATe Classic Film • Roger Corman	Little Shop of Horrors • 1960 Jack Nicholson
11am	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
Noon	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
1pm	PGCPS Science Bowl	Judith P Hoyer v Kettering Middle
2pm	Music at the New Deal	Fez Tones Hafla • Middle Eastern • Dancers
3pm	GATe Classic Film • Roger Corman	Little Shop of Horrors • 1960 Jack Nicholson
5pm	PGCPS Science Bowl	Judith P Hoyer v Kettering Middle
6pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
7pm	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
8pm	GATe Classic Film • Roger Corman	Little Shop of Horrors • 1960 Jack Nicholson
10pm	Music at the New Deal	Fez Tones Hafla • Middle Eastern • Dancers
11pm	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
MN	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming

Connect with GATE www.greenbeltaccessstv.org

Obituaries



William F. Stoddard, Jr.



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

William F. Stoddard, Jr.

On Saturday January 1, 2022, William (Bill) F. Stoddard, Jr. died peacefully at home.

He was born on July 13, 1948, and raised in Brookland in north-east D.C. He loved to tell stories of growing up in the District, playing ball at Turkey Thicket and going to Washington Senators games. He was a proud Washingtonian.

Bill joined the phone company at a young age and had an almost 40-year career. He prided himself on his career, his integrity and the legacy he left behind. During his proud career he made many lifelong friends and had many stories to tell.

Bill and Sharon were married 42 years. They chose to settle and raise their children in Greenbelt. Bill loved the community of Greenbelt, coaching CYO baseball for St. Hugh's and volunteering on the board for the Greenbelt Credit Union and the Greenbelt Co-op.

The true joy of Bill's life, especially in his final years, were his grandchildren. It was not uncommon to find one or all of them in the room with him watching Looney Tunes or other cartoons. Bill was a beloved friend and family member and will be missed.

He is survived by his wife, Sharon (Katzenberger); daughter Theresa (Beth) (Eric Schindler); son James (Jim) (Amy Gignac Stoddard); and his three grandchildren, Emma, Kenzie and Cayden. Bill was a well-loved uncle, cousin, godfather, coach and friend.

To send condolences or flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Bill, visit tributearchive.com/obituaries/23698364/william-f-stoddard-jr.

In Memoriam

Eulogy for Mike Wilson

David Michael (Mike) Wilson died on Sunday, January 9. The following is a eulogy read at his memorial service on Thursday, January 13.

Damn, Damn Alzheimer's

A horrible disease that robs a brilliant mind and erases memories at the young age of 63. We, all of us, family, friends and our firehouse, have years and years of wonderful, fun memories of Mike Wilson.

Back in the day when Greenbelt had a winning, championship softball team, Mike was the star shortstop who made unbelievable catches and could smack the daylights out of a baseball. He gave us years of great memories during those games.

Mike became a member of Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department on August 6, 1975, and was an important part of our live-in crew. Mike had the honor of a life membership, a title that was so worthy of the man he was. Mike was a true leader, an officer, a driver of apparatus and he took new, young members under his broad wings and guided them in becoming great firefighters.

Mike was a gentle, giant of a man; always kind, soft spoken, never heard him raise his voice, always there to guide and help those who needed him, and a hero of a firefighter. They just don't make them like that anymore.

I looked up two words in "my dictionary" and this is what I found. I am sure after you hear the description you will find them too! A leader's leader, a fighter's fighter, a gentleman's gentle man, a warrior's warrior, a firefighter's firefighter, a hero's hero, and a



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

David Michael (Mike) Wilson

ballplayer's ballplayer. Yes, we are right – those two words describe Mike Wilson to a T.

Mike met and married the absolute love of his life, his soulmate, his everything, Beth. They were married for 29 years and have two beautiful daughters, Kate and Kylie. In many of our conversations, Mike would puff up with love and pride when we would talk about his girls. He absolutely adored and idolized the two of them. They were his world, his life.

Perhaps the next time we are at our firehouse, may we stop and take a moment to listen to the walls talk to us of fun and crazy times. To hear the laughter of great friends such as Carl, Billy, Brian Rudy, Brian Tayman, Jay, Chris Fleshman, Matt Palmerton, Tick, Dicky, Pat O'Hagan, Chris Ransom, Tommy, Randy, Stephan, Eddie Joe, Jason, Mike Burt, John Michael, Cami, Bobby Angel, Dave, Matt Weber, Ronnie Walter, just to name a few as there are many more.

It has not been an easy jour-

ney for Beth, the girls and their family. The days were long and the nights even longer. Beth was the tower of strength, holding it together, yet always fighting back tears on the inside. Her gentleness, kindness and love always shown through taking care of Mike and those beautiful, loving acts she passed down to her daughters as they cared for and loved their dad during his courageous battle with Alzheimer's. So, yes, damn, damn Alzheimer's. We will miss Mike's smile, silly dance moves, his kindness, his sense of humor and his leadership. We will miss him beyond words. So, as we leave here tonight, say a prayer for Beth, Kate, Kylie and all of the family. They will need us to lean on and to help them put one foot in front of the other. As I shared with Beth the other day, we are here for you, we stand beside you, behind you and with you in the days, weeks and years ahead. Thank you for sharing with all of us a wonderful, wonderful, kind and giant of a man that we all love. Until we meet again, Mike, damn, damn Alzheimer's. Rest easy; we have it from here.

- Kathy Reynolds



Our condolences to the family and friends of Mike Wilson, who died on January 9. Their loss is also a great loss to the community as Mr. Wilson was a life member of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department.

Condolences also for the family and friends of William Stoddard, who died January 1.

Sympathy as well for the family and friends of Patrick O'Brien, who died January 17.

Congratulations to Felix Hass, Eleanor Roosevelt High School sophomore, on winning the Best Micro Short Film Award at the Taiwan International Film Festival for his animated film Squirrel Hacker, inspired by local wildlife.

Congratulations to Reginald McNeill, the longtime principal of Eleanor Roosevelt High School, on his retirement which is expected to begin July 1, 2022.

Share your accomplishments, milestones and news in the Our Neighbors column. Send details of your news items to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY of GREENBELT

During the pandemic, we gather VIRTUALLY for Liturgy of the Word Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

For ZOOM link:

FDeBernardo@aol.com

"The diversity in the human family should be the cause of love and harmony, as it is in music where many different notes blend together in the making of a perfect chord."

– 'Abdu'l-Bahá



Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors

Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)

301-474-9410

Reverend Rivera, Pastor
In-Person Worship Service 9:30 a.m.

Save the date: January 29 Concert!

Mishkan Torah Congregation



10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm

Saturday morning services at 10:00am

All services and activities are currently virtual

For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org

Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi

Phone: 301-937-3666

www.pbuuc.org



Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community



January 23 10 a.m.

When the Spirit Says Move, Move!

Lula Beatty

Seeking the Warmth of Other Suns

with Worship Associate Polly Pettit

DARTT service. Following on our November theme of Belonging, the Diversity Anti-Racism Transformation Team will discuss their book-read: *The Warmth of Other Suns: the Epic Story of America's Great Migration*, by Isabel Wilkerson. This is the story of the decades-long migration of black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities, in search of a better life.

Greenbelt BAPTIST CHURCH

Christ-centered
Biblical
& Reformed

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am

Sunday School 9:15am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00pm

101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt, MD
www.greenbeltbaptist.org



The Bible Says...

Whatever you do, do your work heartily,
as for the Lord rather than for men

Colossians 3:23



IN PERSON Sunday Worship Services
10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School
MCFcc.org

Greenbelt Community Church
Whoever you are
and wherever you are
on your
Spiritual journey,
you are welcome HERE.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
God is still speaking.

This Sunday's Sermon
on Facebook Live
Sunday at 10:15
Power of
the Spirit

www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE
CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am*, Sat 9am*
- Sunday Mass:
 - Sat vigil 5pm*
 - Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
- Confessions Saturday 3pm – 4pm.
Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

*Live
streamed
on
Facebook
and
available
on our
YouTube
page later.

CELEBRATE WITH US

135 Crescent Rd.

www.sthughofgrenoble.org



The Exquisite Hour Concert January 29

Mowatt United Methodist Church, 40 Ridge Road, will host The Exquisite Hour Concert on Saturday, January 29 at 7 p.m. in the church sanctuary. Jie Fang Goh, a Malaysian-Chinese collaborative pianist, and Öznur Tülüoğlu, a first-generation Turkish-American soprano, will present The Exquisite Hour, a themed vocal and piano recital featuring masterpieces from composers from Europe and the United States that are inspired by, related to, or evocative of the moon. Encompassing a kaleidoscopic array of musical styles and poetry from the Romantic period up until the present day, the program will include songs by Bernstein, Brahms, Schumann, Debussy, Poldowski, Weill and more. This collection of little night-time stories, borne out of the deepest desires and wildest fantasies of these composers and poets, are filled with countless exquisite moments, promising an evening worth remembering.

This is a free-admission event. All age groups are welcome to attend and protective measures such as masking, social distancing and sanitization will be taken to ensure everyone’s safety. Donations are appreciated and all proceeds will go toward supporting the Mowatt church. For more information about the concert, contact the office at 301-474-9410.



City Notes

Horticulture/Parks cleared snowstorm-damaged trees and isolated a downed wire on Westway. Refuse/Recycling collected 24.82 tons of refuse and 11.60 tons of recyclables. Oyster shells can now be dropped off at the Recycling Center for pickup by the Oyster Shell Recovery Partnership.

Outside the Community Center, a tenant staffer was robbed but uninjured. The recreation centers, gymnasiums and Aquatic & Fitness Center reopened with Covid-19 limitations.

This year is Greenbelt’s 85th anniversary and the Museum is preparing commemorative programs for each month. For Black History Month, recreation staff and the Black History and Culture Committee met to plan promotions and Arts staff prepared exhibits and activities.

A ball python stayed temporarily at the Animal Shelter while its owners moved, and two stray roosters were impounded and fostered. After several dogs, cats and kittens were impounded or adopted, seven cats and five kittens remain at the Shelter.

Therapeutic Recreation facilitated a blood drive and delivered meals to 21 homebound seniors. Park rangers monitored icy conditions to ensure the safety of visitors.

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

A six-dollar Valentine
Can never go wrong
Canoodle your sweetheart
In Poem and Song

Sweetie Size at \$6

See page 9 to get yours!



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
Monday, January 24, 2022 at 8:00pm

ORGANIZATION

Roll Call
Call to Order
Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
Consent Agenda - Approval of Staff Recommendations (Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by *] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)
Approval of Agenda and Additions

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations

- Government Alliance on Race and Equity Update

Petitions and Requests

* Minutes of Council Meetings

Statement of Record – Closed Session December 15, 2021
Statement of Record – Closed Session January 6, 2022

Administrative Reports

* Committee Reports

LEGISLATION

- A Resolution to Repeal and Reenact with Amendment Resolution Number 2081 to Adopt Standing Rules for the Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, 2nd Reading, Adoption
- An Ordinance To Amend Chapter 12, “Parks And Recreation,” Article IX, “Forest Preserve,” Of The Greenbelt City Code For The Purpose Of Designating A City-Owned Parcel As Forest Preserve Area (Greenbriar Preserve), 2nd Reading, Adoption

OTHER BUSINESS

- Greenbelt Road Corridor Plan TLC Project Staff Briefing
- Recreation Department Re-Naming and Proposed Merger with the Greenbelt Museum
- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Engagement Plan
- Support of Proposed Legislation
- Council Activities
- Council Reports

* Letter – Public Buildings Reform Board’s Recommendation for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Area 400
* Letter – WMATA Service Cut Back

MEETINGS

- Stakeholder

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at 301-474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

VIRTUAL MEETINGS FOR JANUARY 24-28

Tuesday, January 25 at 3:30 pm, SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE, On the Agenda: Call to Order, Introduction of Guests, Approval of Agenda – January 25, 2021, Approval of Minutes – November 30, 2021; Old Business: Recruiting New Members, Topics and Title for 2022 Not For Seniors Only Event; New Business: GAIL Updates, Greenbelt Recreation updates; Other, Announcements

Tuesday, January 25 at 7 pm, ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION – ANNUAL PRINCIPALS MEETING

Tuesday, January 25 at 7:30 pm, GREEN ACES/GREEN TEAM, On the Agenda: Zero Waste – Organics – CMOM proposal to Council (Meeting on Monday, Feb. 7 at 8 pm); Updates from Sustainability Framework/Green Team Circles; Energy/Solar Circle; Food Systems/Sustainable Land Care/Pollinators Circle: Update on locations to propose as pollinator areas; Update on asking about no-mow spring; Green Building, Land Use, Transportation -EVIPG report for Council – Next steps; Local Economies – Time Back Circle; Waste Management/Zero Waste Circle; Water/Streams; Events/Other; Adjournment

Tuesday, January 25 at 8 pm, ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, On the Agenda: Principals’ Meeting, Minutes of December meeting, Grants update, AOB, Next Meeting

Wednesday, January 26 at 8 pm, WORK SESSION – EAST GREENBELT COMMUNITY, Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996, and streaming at greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv.

Thursday, January 27 at 5 pm, BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEETING, On the Agenda: Call to order, Approval of Agenda, 2021 Post-election review, Other business

Thursday, January 27 at 7 pm, FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD

Thursday, January 27 at 7:30 pm, FOUR CITIES MEETING (COLLEGE PARK)

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at 301-474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000. For information on public participation for the virtual meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov

MOM'S MORNING OUT

Does your pre-school aged child enjoy helping you cook, like exploring, and love to learn? Then check out Greenbelt Recreation's pre-school programs Mom's Morning Out and Pre-School Enrichment and Fun.

Mom's Morning Out is a licensed traditional pre-school program that focuses on social development, fine and gross motor skills, listening, and following instructions. The Pre-School Enrichment and Fun program focuses on group games, sports skills, cooking classes, nature walks, science experiments, and much more. Both programs have a heavy emphasis on learning in a fun way! We offer pre-school programs Monday through Friday at the Youth Center. Financial aid is available for eligible Greenbelt residents.

For more information, visit our Virtual Recreation Center online at greenbeltmd.gov/recreation or give us a call at 301-397-2200.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

• Advisory Committee on Education

• Arts Advisory Board

• Board of Elections

• Park & Recreation Advisory Board

• Senior Citizens Advisory Committee

• Youth Advisory Committee

For more information, call 301-474-8000

Greenbelt ARPA Funds Assistance Programs Update (as of 1/10/22)

Business Improvement and Recovery Fund
· 23 businesses and nonprofit organizations were granted assistance totaling \$390,000

Rent and Utility Assistance
· 158 Greenbelt Households were granted assistance totaling \$547,279.28

Mortgage and HOA fee Assistance
· 3 Greenbelt Households were granted assistance totaling \$6,525.53

GREENBELT NURSERY PROJECT

Starts on Wednesday, January 12, 2022

Free services offered:
Diapers, formula, baby accessories monthly; baby wellness nursing assessment; baby milestone progress review; information/resource linkage; healthy eating education

To register, call 240-542-2019 or email kfarzin@greenbeltmd.gov

GREENBELT CARES PRESENTS THE TEEN D.R.A.M.A. CLUB

Dispute Resolution And Managing Anger for Teens Ages 13-18
Join us online on Mondays, Jan. 24-Feb. 28 7-8:15 pm
(No Class, Feb. 21)

Earn a gift card for participation

To enroll, send an email to cares@greenbeltmd.gov

CELEBRATION OF CENTENARIANS

The City of Greenbelt would like to celebrate Greenbelt residents who have reached the milestone age of 100 years. If you would like to recognize your loved one or a friend, please contact Rebekah Sutfin 240-542-2056 or email at rsutfin@greenbeltmd.gov

The Centenarian will choose from a variety of options to celebrate their birthday!

Photo: Mrs. Mary Rita Babbitt celebrated her 103rd Birthday on October 21, 2021.

ELECTRONICS, STYROFOAM & PAINT RECYCLING

Saturday, January 22, 2022 9 AM - 12 NOON

Public Works Yard, 555 Crescent

NO Alkaline Batteries
NO Tube TVs

\$5 per paint container

Questions? Call 301-474-8004

FEELING ISOLATED? LOOKING TO CONNECT WITH OTHERS?

We are here to help. Join the Greenbelt Assistant in Living (GAIL) online support group. Meets every 3rd Wednesday, 2-3 pm. Pre-registration required. Interested? Contact Sharon Johnson at 240-542-2029 or Sjohnson@greenbeltmd.gov

CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION!

Your discarded Christmas tree can be recycled. Public Works will pickup trees at locations listed below or online. Please insure all ornaments and lights are removed. Drop off your trees for recycling at specified areas up until February 11, 2022.

GHI

· Ridge Road, 73 Court (opposite playground)
· Plateau Place and Ridge Road (corner on playground side)
· Research Road and Hillside Road (corner)
· Ridge Road, 44 Court (Area near playground)
· Eastway & Crescent Road (corner)
· Ridge Road, 21 Court (across from Green Ridge House)
· Crescent Road and Ridge Road (playground at junction)
· Parkway (corner across from 58 Court Crescent Road)
· Parkway (corner across from Community Church)
· Southway, 7 Court (playground at Little League field)
· Ridge Road, 11 Court and 13 Court (area between courts)

BOXWOOD

· Ivy Lane and Lastner Lane (playground)

Lakewood

· Greenhill Road & Crescent Road (by Baptist Church)

CHARLESTOWNE VILLAGE AND CHARLESTOWNE NORTH

· Property adjacent to Attic Park

UNIVERSITY SQUARE

· In front of swimming pool

LAKESIDE NORTH

· Near Swimming pool

SPRINGHILL LAKE

· Field past 9294 Edmonston

GREENBRIAR

· Between buildings 7708 & 7710
· Between buildings 7728 & 7730
· Between buildings 7826 & 7828
· Between buildings 8003 & 8009

GLEN OAKS

· Between buildings 7903 & 7905
· Between buildings 7509 & 7511

HUNTING RIDGE

· Between buildings 6936 & 6978

WINDSOR GREEN

· At court entrances, picked up by Windsor Green staff

GREENBROOK VILLAGE AND ESTATES

· Southeast corner of Ora Glen Dr & Matthew Dr
· Southeast corner of Hanover Parkway and Greenbrook Drive
· In front of barricade - Mandan Road & Matthew St

GREENWOOD VILLAGE

· Opposite 8175 Mandan
· Opposite 7646 Mandan
· Opposite 7648 Mandan

GREENSPRING AND GREENSPRING II

· Southwest corner of Megan Lane & Craddock Rd
· Park area between 7926 & 8006 Greenbury Dr
· Corner of Spring Manor Drive & Springshire Way
· Open area between 6519 & 6515 Springcrest Dr

BELLE POINT

· Corner of Vanity Fair Dr. & Prince James Way
· Open area between 7800 & 7801 Vanity Fair Dr.
· Open area beside 7962 Vanity Fair Drive

GREENBELT VILLAGE

· Open area between 6729 & 6715 Village Park Dr
· Open area across from 6632 Lake Park Drive
· Open area across from 6510 & 6512 Lake Park Dr

GREENBELT STATION

· Central Park field along Stream Bank Lane

County Sheriff Carr Informs Council on Eviction Policies

by Matthew Arbach

Lt. Colonel John Carr, assistant sheriff and chief of the Bureau of Field Operations for Prince George’s County, made a presentation to the Greenbelt City Council on Monday, January 10 on the subject of evictions, which he oversees and is the purview of his department. Carr emphasized his commitment to execute his charge with utmost empathy and that his organization strives – through outreach, administrative efforts and allocation of relief funds – to avoid the unfortunate final step of evicting families from their homes in this difficult time. Carr laid out the steps involved in an eviction and the circumstances by which one can be delayed or cancelled.

Carr said that along with a rise in emergency mental health and domestic violence calls, his department has been dealing chiefly with tenant/landlord issues during the pandemic.

His department endeavors to resolve as many evictions as possible administratively by connecting tenants with assistance programs and working with property owners to find alternatives. He said that some local municipalities have also made efforts to forestall evictions by working with property owners.

County Statistics

Carr laid out some eviction statistics for 2021 for the county. The district court issued 2,163 district writs, of which 1,992 were cancelled through administrative means, leaving 750 evictions that were carried out. While he said that this number was still large, he made a comparison to pre-pandemic numbers, when there were over 6,000 writs issued, of which 3,000 were disposed of, the remainder of which resulted in evictions or the tenants moving out. He credited the difference to the influx of unprecedented Covid-related rental assistance programs like the county’s Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) and partnerships with organizations like CASA.

According to Carr, Franklin Park has the “lion’s share” of evictions in Greenbelt. He stated that, in Franklin Park and Greenbelt Station, there were 78 current eviction writs issued, with 42 being worked on administratively, adding that most of the evictions in Franklin Park are dealt with in this manner.

Postpone or Stop

While nothing can be done to stop an eviction once it has



Sheriff John Carr

PHOTO COURTESY PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

been initiated, Carr laid out some instances where one can be postponed or stopped. The following reasons for a delay are: winter temperatures below 32 degrees, rain, tenant medical issues or a child in the middle of a school Zoom session. For an eviction to be cancelled, the reasons are a tenant providing the funds owed or a cancellation by the property owner.

A tenant is only responsible for funds established on a writ. Carr has seen the amounts owed by tenants increase dramatically during the pandemic, in some cases up to \$30,000 for a one-bedroom apartment.

City Role

A municipality like Greenbelt has no power to intercede in an eviction. Said Carr, the Sheriff’s Office is “the arm of the court,” and has to act in an impartial manner to carry them out if no other alternatives manifest. Greenbelt can help in the area of rental assistance, which exists under groups like Greenbelt CARES.

ERAP closed its application portal on December 15, 2021. Residents can check on the status

of previously submitted applications online.

Considerations

A small percentage of evictions are in the category of “tenant holding over,” where a property owner has not renewed a lease and the tenant continues to stay in the residence.


Carr stressed the need for county residents to be wary of intimidation and misinformation from property owners who attempt to force a tenant out on their own volition, employing tactics like changing locks. Strictly speaking, a legal eviction is a court-ordered action that is administered by the County Sheriff’s Office. In some cases, Carr has seen tenants who vacate the premises even before the sheriff appears on the scene.

Carr said that the courts provide Spanish translation and aids to the language impaired on writ notices and listings of assistance resources.

Mayor Emmett Jordan expressed the council’s feelings for the difficult job that Carr and his department are charged with, noting his “heart and compassion,” and praising the alliance of communication that was being practiced.

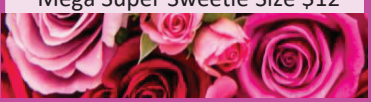


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Your love might be real
Or a plot
You may be a dominant
Or submissive
But whatever your plan
You will be The Man
When you publish this
twelve buck missive

Mega Super Sweetie Size \$12



See page 9 to get yours!

Applications Open for Green Ridge House Senior Facility

by Cathie Meetre

At 9 a.m. on Tuesday, January 18, Green Ridge House opened its applications for the coming year. By 8:45 a.m. there were eight potential residents signed in and seated comfortably in the lobby and lounge waiting for the process to begin. The facility, owned by the city and operated under a contract, requests that potential residents complete an application in person during its application period. The form includes information for determining eligibility for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program that keeps rents to a percentage of the individual’s income. Although originally intended as a facility for the city’s older or disabled residents, its eligibility for HUD

funding means that non-residents are also welcomed.

Those waiting in the lobby appeared cheerful and excited by the prospect of living at Green Ridge House and itching to fill in the form. One had come from Waldorf to apply and another lived in the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. apartments nearby. The earliest arrival had been there since about 6:30 a.m. They pronounced themselves ready to move at a moment’s notice – one of the eligibility requirements is based on the ability of the individual to move in quickly once an apartment is open. The applications were given out at 9 a.m. in order of arrival, and one lady fervently hoped that she could fill in her form fast enough to stay in the running.

AWARD continued from page 1

can cross language and cultural barriers. The film, which lasts approximately one minute, was produced during the fall/winter GATe class taught by Mr. Geo in 2018-19. The film can be viewed

by going to YouTube and typing in Greenbelt Access Television Squirrel Hacker. Hass not only produced the film but performed the background music as well.



SCREENSHOT FROM GATE YOUTUBE CHANNEL

A squirrel keeps all birdfeeders in view during Felix Hass's micro-movie.

visit www.greenbeltnewsreview.com



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I'll help you sell your home or find a new one. Check out my website for testimonials from my clients: www.longandfoster.com/MelanieCantwell Or send me an email: Melanie.Cantwell@LNF.com I also live in Greenbelt!

Melanie Cantwell, Realtor MD & DC
9094 Baltimore Ave, College Park, MD
C 240.470.5911
O 301.441.9511
Melanie.Cantwell@LNF.com



HOMESNAP'S
MOST
PROMINENT
Melanie Cantwell
FIRST HALF OF 2021 | TOP AGENT AWARD WINNER






ROTARY CLUB OF GREENBELT

GREENBELTROTARY.ORG

Greenbelt Rotary Invites Greenbelt Citizens for Disaster Training as Greenbelt Rotary was at Bremen KY last week supporting with rebuilding and financial aid. Training will be done Rotary Action Group and Disaster AID USA on Saturday Jan. 22nd. You can meet and greet the concerned in a social this Thursday Jan. 20th at 6:30 p.m. at Crowne Plaza Greenbelt on Ivy Lane.

Event: Happy Hour Crowne Plaza Ivy Lane Greenbelt
Thursday, Jan. 20th 6:30 p.m.

Event: Robots in the Wild Disaster Training 11301 Springfield Road Laurel MD
www.captachu.edu Saturday Jan. 22nd, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.



Vaccine Data Misinterpreted In Seeking Cause and Effect

by Cathie Meetre

The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting system (VAERS, vaers.hhs.gov) is a database started in 1990 and maintained by the federal Department of Health and Human Services. Medical professionals report on deaths or other reactions in those who have been vaccinated – regardless of whether a connection between the vaccination and the death is suspected. VAERS includes data for familiar shots like polio, flu and now Covid-19, as well as many rarely given in the U.S., like Ebola or anthrax. VAERS is a bit daunting to use – it’s designed for researchers trained in statistical analysis and should be approached with caution.

What’s in VAERS?

VAERS records (among other things) how many people have died in the U.S. within two weeks of receiving a vaccination. Those who don’t understand statistics sometimes incorrectly use this number to say that thousands of people have died BECAUSE they got vaccinated. This makes people think, wrongly, that getting the vaccine is more dangerous than getting Covid.

Cause and Effect

If two things both happen to a group of people, it does NOT automatically mean one causes the other. Suppose all the people who died within two weeks of taking an aspirin were counted, the number would be huge – but nobody assumes aspirin killed all those people because it’s the devil we know (despite aspirin’s potential dangers). Perhaps the dead person took aspirin for a headache that was the precursor to a stroke or maybe for a toothache but died of a heart attack. There’s no way to know from these numbers.

Connecting the Dots

The VAERS numbers allow for statistical analyses that help us figure out if there is a connection. The step-by-step process (without getting too technical) looks like this:

1. Count those who died within two weeks after being vaccinated.
2. Group them by age, gender, ethnicity, etc. – “slice and dice” on multiple characteristics.
3. Record the assigned causes of death (e.g. heart attack, cancer, stroke, diabetes or whatever).
4. Repeat steps 1 through 3 for a large group of similar people who died but didn’t get the vaccine within the two weeks prior. This is the control group.
5. Compare the causes of death for the two groups. Look overall and in combinations of age, gender, ethnicity, etc.

Then comes the big question: Do any causes of death seen in the two-week-vaccinated people occur more often than with the control group, and is that enough times to be sure? If people died of something in the two-week vaccinated group and fewer died of the same thing in the other group – Bingo! Then there’s a possible cause-and-effect relationship. As the groups of people in the data get larger and the pattern remains, the results become more and more certain.

Putting It Together

This statistical process is how the link between the J&J vaccine and blood clots was found. Of thousands of people who died within two weeks after a J&J shot, several died from a rare blood clot – mostly overweight women in their 40s and 50s. The disease was so rare that it would be unlikely to kill even one person in the vaccinated group, much less several, unless there was a connection. This signaled a cause-and-effect relationship – the J&J vaccine was associated with the blood clots. There were no other similar patterns – the rest of the people in both groups died from what would be expected in about the same proportions – heart disease, cancer, stroke – the usual suspects.

More Data Helps

A picture that is fuzzy with 10,000 people gets much clearer with 100,000. With over 550 million vaccinations so far in the United States and billions worldwide, there have been no other cause and effect links found between any of the vaccines and a cause of death. The most serious other related concern was a slightly increased incidence of myocarditis and pericarditis, most often in young males. These inflammations were generally mild and rapidly went away with treatment.

The evidence shows the vaccination is safe – but its effectiveness diminishes with time, and the more slowly the world is vaccinated the greater the chance for a new and much more dangerous variant to emerge.



Covid Cases: 20770 Zip Code

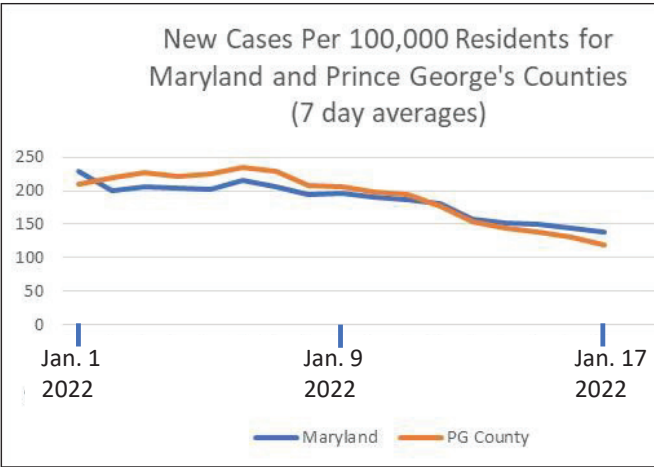
The data from the county and the state for the last few weeks seems to indicate a reduction in the number of new cases and some relief for hospital beds. Data released Tuesday, January 18 shows that new cases per day have fallen to approximately half the number experienced on the peak days around the New Year and the trend is downwards. But compared to the low point last summer, there are still many new cases and it’s no time to relax vigilance. County-wide, availability of hospital beds is back in the medium range with about 40 to 49 percent of beds available, having dropped briefly below 40 percent. But community transmission remains substantial though hospital bed use is somewhat down from the county peak of 364 – though still above 300.

News from zip code 20770 also shows a sustained descent in new case numbers that started around the New Year and continues to gradually go down – exhibiting the same pattern as the county and the state.

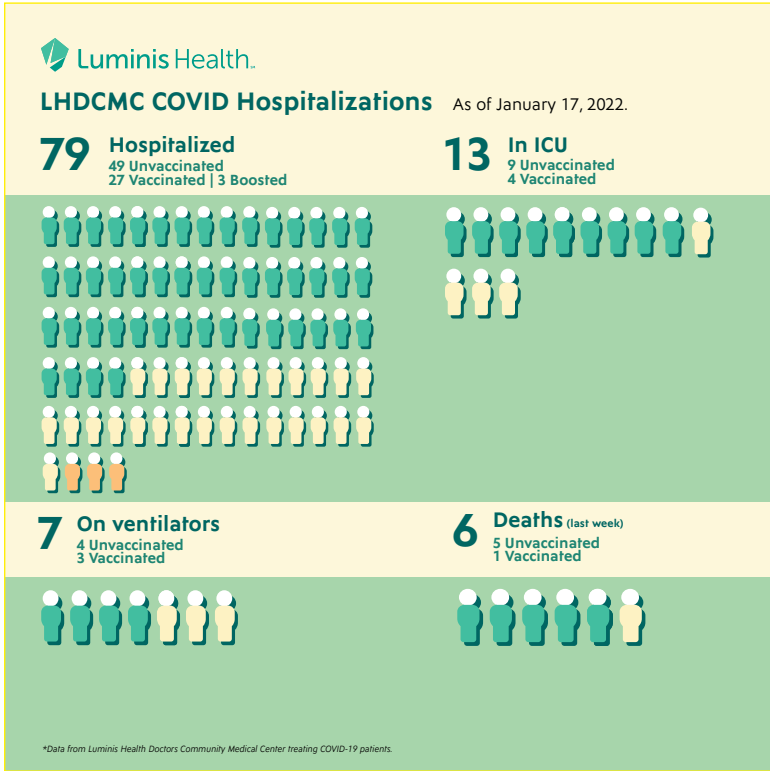
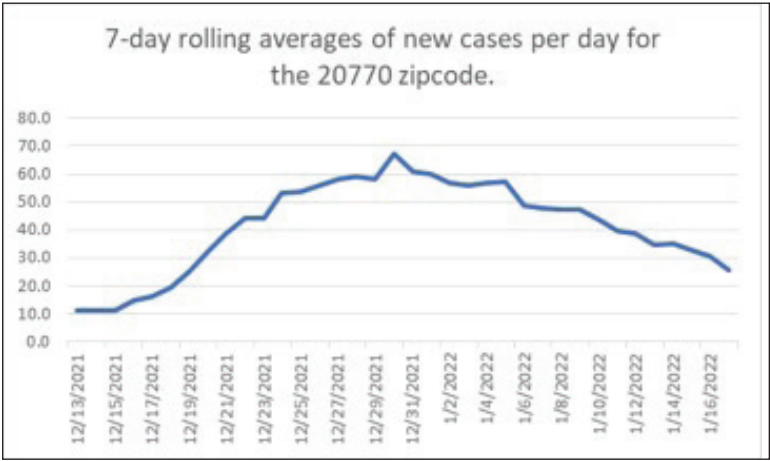
News from Luminis Health Doctors Community Medical Center (LHDCMC) remains similar to last week as the new cases from the peaks at the New Year move through their illness. If anything, it is even more obvious that the unvaccinated outnumber the fully vaccinated many-fold. If all the unvaccinated or partially vaccinated patients had been fully vaccinated (including the booster), the number of hospital beds filled by Covid patients would be perhaps 10 to 12 instead of 99.

There are zero fully vaccinated individuals in the ICU, on ventilators or who died during the week this data covers and out of 99 patients altogether, only four fully-vaccinated patients are hospitalized in the regular wards.

Thanks to LHDCMC for providing this graphic at the News Review’s request.



- Graphs courtesy Maryland Master Opendata



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Census Official Addresses The Greenbelt Golden Agers

by Mary Moien

On January 12, Nicholas A. Jones, U.S. Census Bureau, spoke with members of the Greenbelt Golden Agers. Jones is director/senior advisor for race/ethnicity research and outreach at Census. The main emphasis in his presentation was on the 2020 Census, especially related to his expertise in the areas of race and ethnicity. Jones described how the collection of race data has shifted since the very first census in 1790 until the most recent in 2020. In the most recent census, there was the most detailed collection ever of multiple races. There was a lively discussion between Jones and the Golden Age participants.

Jones compared many map charts showing the change in race and ethnicity across the U.S. between the 2010 and 2020 Censuses. He described how, for many states, the number of people who indicated being of a single race is decreasing and the number who indicate multiple races is increasing. In 2020, Maryland was one of the top five states with the most diverse populations. The western part of the state had the least diversity and the mid-state and eastern counties had significantly more diversity. Jones described how diversity can be shown by randomly picking two people in a locale and seeing how likely it is that they will be of two races or two ethnicities. In the 2010 Census, Montgomery and Charles counties were the most diverse in Maryland. In



PHOTO COURTESY BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

Nicholas A. Jones, Census Bureau Official, addresses the Golden Age Club.

2020, Montgomery and Howard counties were the most diverse.

Multiracial Data

In the 2020 Census, respondents were able to provide multiracial data in a more detailed way for the first time. This led to significant shifts in how the population was reported. The white population remained the largest racial group in the U.S., with 204 million people identifying as white alone. Another 30 million people identified as white in combination with another group. The white alone group actually decreased by 8.6 percent from 2010 to 2020.

During the same decade, the multiracial population increased significantly. There were 9 million people who chose that race group in 2010, compared with

almost 34 million in 2020, a 276-percent increase.

Greenbelt Statistics

Jones provided some basic statistics on Greenbelt. Between 2010 and 2020, Greenbelt's total population grew from 23,068 to 24,921, an increase of 8 percent. The Hispanic population grew by 30 percent to 4,280 people. The Not Hispanic population grew by 4 percent to 20,642. Among the Not Hispanic, the largest race groups in 2020 were Black or African American alone with 11,897 people; White alone with 5,176 people; Asian alone with 2,323 people and Two or More Races with 996 people.

Greenbelt Connection

It was no surprise to the Golden Agers present that Nicholas Jones is the son of Greenbelt's own John Henry Jones and the late Elaine Jones. Jones grew up in Greenbelt and is well-known by many who participated in the discussion.

Past Census Data

When people complete the Census forms, they are promised that their individual data will not become public for a certain period of time. But genealogists are always interested in detailed data, so it was determined that detailed data could be released 72 years after the Census year. Jones announced that the 1950 detailed Census data will be released this spring.

POLICE continued from page 1

issues around stop and frisk, including the banning of any unconstitutional usage and information gathering on those for whom it has been used. Council is keen on reaching final deliberations on these standing issues in the near future.

Amendments Withdrawn

Byrd introduced two amendments, both of which were debated and later withdrawn for separate reasons. The first sought to make the public release of disciplinary and internal affairs records of the department, even those found baseless, "releasable" (a stronger term), as mandated by Anton's Law, a recent statute that amended the Maryland Public Information Act (MPIA). Byrd stated his misgiving with the use of the word "comply" (in reference to Anton's Law) in the resolution's corresponding General Order, citing the term's ambiguous interpretation by the county Police Department, who he said have a history of not making these records available on a regular basis. When told by Captain Timothy White that the Greenbelt Police Department is already performing a policy in line with Byrd's wishes, including making past documents available, he withdrew the amendment as unnecessary.

The second amendment concerned establishing a term of 10 working days to satisfy the request for a release of body-camera footage. The department has determined that this is a performable timeframe. Yet, a sticking point arose when Chief Richard Bowers said that attorneys at times will use MPIA avenues to gather footage for cases

like auto crashes. Normally in cases like these, attorneys would employ a subpoena, which has a 30-day time period. White and Bowers were concerned that setting a 10-day general timeframe would apply to these cases as well if sought through MPIA. So, a debate arose over whether more tiered parameters need to be applied, with the 10-day mandate reserved for more urgent situations. While there was reluctance over leaving this unsettled and some frustration from Byrd for the unexpected revelation of the problem (White responded that this was a more recent problem, largely from the closing of the courts due to inclement weather), it was deemed wise to revisit this item later, with Byrd withdrawing the amendment.

Reform Takes Time

Faced with the potential for another delayed vote, resident Lois Rosado expressed consternation with council for the onerous length of time it has taken to adopt these reforms, citing that council risked becoming "a laughingstock" in the area. Councilmember Judith Davis reassured her that it was only the still-to-be-determined items that would require later voting. Mayor Emmett Jordan stressed the historic and important nature of these reforms, saying that they required deliberation to avoid "unintended consequences."

In the end, the current resolution was passed unanimously. PSAC member Peggy Higgins praised council for their persistence in seeing this through, and summed up the general feeling that "there was more to be done."

Mayor, Councilmembers Are Involved on a Wider Stage

Greenbelt Mayor Emmett V. Jordan was elected to the National League of Cities (NLC) Board of Directors by NLC's membership at the 2021 virtual City Summit. Jordan was elected to a two-year term and will provide strategic direction and guidance for NLC's federal advocacy, governance and membership activities. NLC is the largest and most representative organization for cities, their elected leaders and municipal staff. It advocates for city priorities in Washington by building strong federal-local partnerships.

"I'm thankful for the opportunity to serve on the NLC Board of Directors. To work with other like-minded people who have the same goal in mind is quintessential. I'm excited to use my voice and platform to assist our cities, towns and villages receive the support they deserve. This is going to be a great term and I look forward to meeting and working with everyone," said Jordan.

As a member of the board, Jordan will meet in March, June and November to guide NLC's strategic direction. Board members are selected by a 15-member nominating committee and are confirmed by a vote from NLC's membership at the organization's annual business meeting.

"The NLC Board of Directors serves an important role in determining the direction of our organization's priorities and policies," said NLC President Mayor

Vince Williams of Union City, Ga. "NLC's Board of Directors is made up of dedicated local leaders from across our nation, committed to fulfilling the promise of America's cities, towns and villages. I look forward to working with each member to reclaim, renew and reimagine our communities from the wake of the Covid-19 crisis in our country."

Greenbelt City Council members also have been appointed to several NLC federal advocacy committees. These committees play a central role in developing the organization's federal policy positions, which are the foundation of the NLC's advocacy efforts and leading advocacy on Capitol Hill and within the Administration. They are:

- Community and Economic Development Committee - Mayor Emmett Jordan
- Transportation and Infrastructure Services Committee - Mayor Pro Tem Kristen Weaver
- Energy, Environment and

Natural Resources Committee - Councilmember Judith Davis

- Public Safety and Crime Prevention Committee - Councilmember Silke Pope.

In addition, Pope is a member of the Small Cities Council. Councilmember Ric Gordon has joined two constituency groups: the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Local Officials.

Material in this story was taken from a city press release.

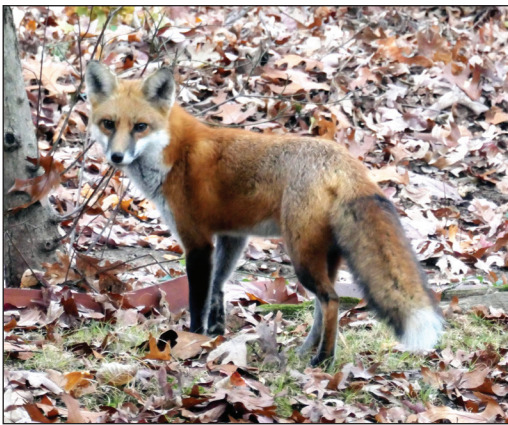


PHOTO BY SUSAN CAHILL

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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here are from January 10 to 16. Media advisories may be more recent and involve more serious incidents. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an enquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Note that the times provided are when the incidents were reported and they may have occurred earlier.

Shooting
On January 13 at 12:40 a.m. in the 5800 block of Cherrywood Terrace, the dispatcher received a report of gunshots heard. When officers responded to the area, they located an adult male suffering from what appeared to be a gunshot wound. Despite life-saving efforts, the male was pronounced dead. The victim has been identified as 23-year-old Justin Devaughn Mack of Greenbelt.

Assault
On January 12, at 4:44 p.m. in the 6000 block of Greenbelt Road, a person was struck by an unknown individual who then brandished a handgun and made threats.

Auto-related Incidents
Carjacking: On January 10 at 7:49 a.m. at Cherrywood Lane / Kenilworth Avenue, the owner left a vehicle unattended and unlocked while running. An unknown person entered the vehicle and waited for the owner to reenter before threatening them with a knife and taking the vehicle. The vehicle was later located and returned.

Carjacking: On January 11 at 9:20 p.m. in the 9200 block of Springhill Lane, two individuals armed with black handguns demanded personal property and attempted to take a vehicle but were unable to start it and fled in a different vehicle.

Driving Under the Influence: On January 19 at 7:12 p.m. in the 6000 block of Springhill Drive, a DUI arrest was made.

Stolen: On January 12 at 7:10 a.m. in the 7600 block of Mandan Road, a 2017 blue Toyota Camry was stolen. The vehicle was located nine hours later. On January 13 at 7:52 a.m. in the 5900 block of Cherrywood Terrace, a 2017 orange Chevrolet Colorado was stolen. The vehicle had been left unlocked with the keys inside. The same day, at 9:12 a.m. in the 7800 block of Hanover Parkway, a 2012 black Chevy Cruze was reported stolen.

There was a rash of thefts from autos during this period, with the first report occurring on January 10 at 6:21 a.m. in the 6200 block of Springhill Drive when a passenger window was vandalized and the vehicle's stereo stolen. The same day, at 7:44 a.m. in the 9100 block of Edmonston Road, personal property was taken and a passenger window broken. Officers located a second vehicle also with a vandalized passenger-side window. Later that day, at 11:36 p.m. in the 6400 block of Capitol Drive, a front passenger window was smashed out and a handicap placard stolen.

January 10 continued the string of thefts with a report at 8:10 a.m. from the 6100 block of Breezewood Court, when rims and tires were stolen from a 2018 Honda Accord and then at 10:08 a.m. in the 9100 block of Edmonston Terrace, where the tires were stolen from a Toyota Camry, the rear driver side window smashed and personal property stolen.

In additional vehicle-related incidents, on January 13 at 1:15 p.m. in the 6200 block of Springhill Court, a vehicle's front passenger window was shattered and a radio stolen and at 9:02 a.m. in the 7800 block of Hanover Parkway a rear windshield was broken and a vehicle rummaged through but nothing taken. The same day, at 9:26 a.m. at 28 Court Ridge Road, a vehicle was scratched on the driver's side hood and hatch back. January 13 also saw, in the 7800 block of Hanover Parkway, a vehicle window broken but nothing taken.

On January 14 at 6:53 p.m. in the 7200 block of Hanover Drive, a rear passenger window was shattered, but nothing taken. Officers located another vehicle in the same parking lot also with a shattered window.

Break-in
On January 11 at 6:15 a.m. in the 5900 block of Greenbelt Road, an individual damaged commercial property and was transported to hospital for evaluation.

Found
On January 11 at 3:50 p.m. in the 7800 block of Hanover Parkway, a stolen vehicle was located with its airbags, center console and speedometer all missing. On January 12 at 12:49 p.m. in the 5800 block of Cherrywood Lane, another stolen vehicle was located.

Fraud
On January 10 at 1:15 p.m. in the area of 100 Centerway, a check sent via mail was found to be altered and cashed by an unknown individual.

On January 12 at 10:51 a.m. in the 5200 block of Sable Court, a Social Security fraud was reported. January 13 and 15 both saw fraud incidents, with an identity theft and check fraud, respectively.

Robbery
On January 11 at 5:55 p.m. in 15 Court Crescent Road, two juveniles attempted to take a bag. After a brief struggle, the youths were unable to take the item from the victim and fled on foot. No weapons were displayed and the suspects did not make any demands.

Theft
On January 11 at 2:21 p.m. in the 7600 block of Greenbelt Road, there was a commercial theft and the next day in the 6000 block of Springhill Drive, a doorbell camera was stolen.

On January 16 at 10:17 p.m. in the 6200 block of Greenbelt Road, a credit card was stolen.

Threats
On January 10 at 7:14 p.m. in the 8200 block of Canning Terrace, an Etsy account and photos app were compromised.

Vandalism
On January 10 at 8:45 p.m. in the 5900 block of Cherrywood Terrace, a residence door was kicked in. In 5 Court Gardenway, a resident heard an object collide with the side of the residence at 11 p.m. on January 12. The following morning, the victim observed damage to the exterior of the home.

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(See examples of lovenotes in this issue.)

VALENTINE continued from page 1

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Fire and ice

PHOTO BY MARC NEVEU



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Mishkan Torah Synagogue Celebrates Tu B'Shvat, Trees

by Karen L. Knee



Jodi Cohen (in blue hat and scarf) teaches participants about local trees and plants on the Greenbelt Lake peninsula.

On Sunday, January 16, about 25 members of Mishkan Torah Synagogue, along with friends and family members, gathered to celebrate the Jewish holiday of Tu B'Shvat, the New Year of the Trees. Despite the cold weather and the winter storm approaching from the south, participants were happy to get outside, spend time together in person and appreciate local plants and trees.

Religious Committee Co-chair Sue Zuk organized the event. She prepared bags containing different kinds of fruits and nuts that sym-

bolize the concepts of action, formation, thought and spirit in Jewish mysticism, or Kabbalah. She also created bingo sheets with various items for people to find as they embarked upon a short nature walk to Greenbelt Lake. Karp Family Hebrew School parent and former environmental educator Jodi Cohen led the nature walk, pointing out a pawpaw tree, spicebush, holly and other notable vegetation along the way.

In Israel, the timing of Tu B'Shvat is based on the agricultural cycle, and the holiday marks

the beginning of the tree-planting season. Here, in Maryland, it falls in the middle of winter. Nonetheless, signs of life were visible to those who looked carefully – for example, the silver, velvety buds that had already begun forming on the magnolia trees alongside the tennis courts.

Mishkan Torah offers a variety of Jewish holiday-themed programs and social events throughout the year. To learn more, email membership@mishkantorah.org or visit mishkantorah.org.

City Opens County's First Oyster Shell Recycling Site

by Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll



A female oyster at an aquaculture facility on Gwynn's Island, Virginia

The City of Greenbelt Department of Public Works is now offering the first public drop-off site for oyster shell recycling in Prince George's County. The site is located at the Buddy Attkick Park Residential Recycling Center. Residents can take their empty oyster shells to the drop-off location to be collected by the Oyster Shell Recovery Partnership and taken to the University of Maryland, Horn Point Oyster Hatchery. The shells are then aged, washed and used as anchor sites for oyster larvae, called spat. Each recycled oyster shell can host up to 10 spat. The shells with anchored spat are then planted in oyster reefs in the Chesapeake Bay, supporting the local oyster populations and the seafood markets that sell them.

Oysters are a keystone species in the bay ecosystem and are vital to the local seafood economy. Oysters are filter feeders, acting like vacuums to clean organic and inorganic material in the water. This ecosystem service creates cleaner water that benefits other species in the bay. In fact, one oyster can filter up to 50 gallons of water per day and it

is estimated that the pre-Colonial population of oysters could filter the entire volume of the Chesapeake Bay in just about four days.

Oyster reefs support a diversity of bay-dwelling species by providing spawning habitat and shelter. Species such as barnacles, mussels and anemones all need to attach to a hard surface to grow, while other species such as oyster gobies and blennies use dead oyster shells on which to lay their eggs. The presence of these species and other bay residents attracts and supports larger species, contributing to the \$600 million seafood industry in Maryland that supports local watermen.

Years of overharvesting, disease and habitat loss and degradation have created an uphill battle for oysters to truly recover in the Chesapeake Bay. To help support the local economy and the oyster population at the same time, eat oysters and recycle their shells.

For more information visit oysterrecovery.org and hpl.umces.edu, as well as greenbeltnmd.gov/government/public-works/trash-recycling/oyster-shell-recycling.


Martin Luther King Day



Covid vaccines, boosters and free meals were used to celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day at Beltway Plaza on January 17. The event, which was co-sponsored by At-Large County Councilmember Mel Franklin and DJ Flexx, included a visit from Chair of the Maryland House Black Caucus Delegate Darryl Barnes of District 25. Pictured, from left, are: Councilmember Ric Gordon, Mayor Emmett Jordan, Kimmie Jolly, Bonita Curtis and Greenbelt's Outstanding Citizen Shaymar Higgs.



A red-bellied woodpecker on Lakeside Drive


 This Valentine here
 Will make it quite clear
 Your heart is a-flutter
 For your favorite nutter
 (And for nine bucks a time
 We'll e'en help you
 rhyme).

Super Sweetie Size at \$9

See page 9 to get yours!



Greenbelt Lake's ice fights against the sun on Monday, January 17. The curved lines on the front piece of ice are duck or goose footprints. The star-like patterns on the right are places where the sun has already melted the ice.



Ring-necked ducks